



AP 11/13/05

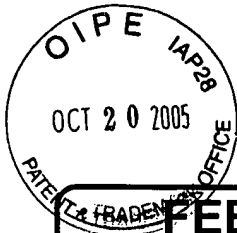
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application No.	09/385,315
		Filing Date	August 30, 1999
		First Named Inventor	Xircom, Inc.
		Art Unit	2143
		Examiner Name	Vaughn Jr, William C.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	25	Attorney Docket Number	42390P12215

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached  <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response  <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request  <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> PTO/SB/08 <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Filing Fee <input type="checkbox"/> Declaration/POA <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)  <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition  <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert a Provisional Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address  <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund  <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group  <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information  <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;">- First Class Certificate of Mailing; - return receipt postcard</div>
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Signature	
Date	October 17, 2005

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Signature		Date	October 17, 2005



# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

## Complete if Known

Application Number	09/385,315
Filing Date	August 30, 1999
First Named Inventor	Xircom, Inc.
Examiner Name	Vaughn Jr, William C.
Art Unit	2143
Attorney Docket No.	42390P12215

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

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## FEE CALCULATION

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet.	
2053	130	2053	130	Non-English specification	
1251	120	2251	60	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	450	2252	225	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	1,020	2253	510	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,590	2254	795	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,160	2255	1,080	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	500	2401	250	Notice of Appeal	
1402	500	2402	250	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	500.00
1403	1,000	2403	500	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	2451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1460	130	2460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
1809	790	1809	395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	790	2810	395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
Other fee (specify) _____					
SUBTOTAL (2)				(\$)	500.00

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Signature		Date	10/17/05		



Our Docket No: 42P12215

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
 )  
Parrott )  
 )  
Application No: 109/385,315 )  
 )  
Filed: August 30, 1999 )  
 )  
For: Infrared to Radio Frequency Adapter )  
And Method for Using the Same )

Examiner: Vaughn Jr., William C.  
  
Art Unit: 2143

APPEAL BRIEF  
IN SUPPORT OF APPELLANT'S APPEAL  
TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Sir:

Applicant (hereinafter "Appellant") hereby submits this Brief in support of its appeal from a final decision by the Examiner, mailed May 13, 2005, in the above-referenced Application. Appellant respectfully requests consideration of this appeal by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (hereinafter "Board") for allowance of the above-captioned patent application.

An oral hearing is not desired.

10/20/2005 HDESTA1 00000058 09385315  
01 FC:1402 500.00 OP

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**I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST**

The invention is assigned to Intel Corporation of 2200 Mission College Boulevard, Santa Clara, California 95052.

**II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

To the best of Appellant's knowledge, there are no appeals or interferences related to the present appeal that will directly affect, be directly affected by, or have a bearing on the Board's decision.

**III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-17, 21 and 22 are currently pending in the above-referenced application. In the Final Office Action mailed May 13, 2005 (hereinafter "Final Office Action"), claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13-17, 2, and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi (UK Patent Application 234920) ("*Kobayashi*") in view of Sulavuori et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,636,264) ("*Sulavuori*") in view of Haartsen (U.S. Patent No. 6,574,266) ("*Haartsen*"). Claims 3 and 12 stand rejected under 5 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*, and further in view of well known in the art. Claims 1-17, 21 and 22 are being appealed.

#### **IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS**

Claims 1-17, 21 and 22 are currently pending in the subject application. These claims were finally rejected in the Final Office Action mailed May 13, 2005.

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on May 13, 2005, rejecting claims 1-17, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Appellant filed a Notice of Appeal on August 15, 2005. A copy of all claims on appeal is attached hereto as an Appendix of Claims.

Appellant respectfully traverses each of these grounds of rejection.

#### **V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER**

According to one embodiment, an adapter is described in independent claim 1. The adapter includes an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a computing device via an infrared data port, and a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a data system via a Bluetooth interface. In addition, the adapter includes a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth. (Figure 4 and Specification at pg. 8, ll. 4 – pg. 9, ll. 18).

In another embodiment, a system is described in claim 7. The system includes a computing device having an infrared data port to transmit and receive information to a data system in communication with a network and an adapter to transfer information between the computing device and the data system. The adapter includes an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the infrared data port, a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the data system and

a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port. (Figure 2 and Specification at pg. 6, ll. 16 – pg. 7, ll. 25).

Yet a further embodiment of an adapter is described in claim 15. The adapter includes a first infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a first computing device via a first infrared data port, a second infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a second computing device via a second infrared data port, a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a data system via a Bluetooth interface and a processor coupled to the first and second infrared transceivers and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the first and second infrared transceivers to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to at least one of the infrared data ports. (Figure 4 and Specification at pg. 8, ll. 4 – pg. 9, ll. 18).

A method for wirelessly connecting a computing device to a network is described in claim 16. The method includes receiving information at an adapter over an infrared communication link from a remote computing device, converting the information from an infrared format to a Bluetooth protocol format at a processor and communicating the information to the network over a Bluetooth link. (Figure 5 and Specification at pg. 9, ll. 18 – 25).

A further method for wirelessly connecting a computing device to a network is described in claim 17. The method includes receiving information at an adapter over a

Bluetooth communication link from the network, converting the information from a Bluetooth protocol format to an infrared signal at a processor and communicating the information to the computing device over an infrared communication link. (Figure 6 and Specification at pg. 9, ll. 26 – pg. 10, ll. 2).

Another embodiment of a system is described in claim 22. The system includes a portable computing device having an infrared data port an IR (infrared) to Bluetooth adapter communicatively coupled to the infrared data port. The adapter includes an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the infrared data port a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the data system and a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port. Moreover, the system includes a data system communicatively coupled to the IR to Bluetooth adapter to receive Bluetooth protocol signals from the IR to Bluetooth adapter, and to transmit the signals to a network. (Figure 3 and Specification at pg. 7, ll. 26 – pg. 8, ll. 3).



**VI. GROUND OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL**

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13-17, 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kobayashi* in view of *Sulavuori* in view of *Haartsen*.

Claims 3 and 12 stand rejected under 5 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* and further in view of the well known art.

## VII. ARGUMENT

1. **THE PENDING CLAIMS 1, 2, 4-11, 13-17, 21 AND 22 WERE IMPROPERLY REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) BECAUSE KOBAYASHI, SULAVUORI AND HAARTSEN DO NOT DISCLOSE OR SUGGEST EACH AND EVERY FEATURE OF THE PENDING CLAIMS**

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention for the reasons set forth below. As the Honorable Board is well aware, in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness:

First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (Emphasis added). *In re Vaech*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), 8<sup>th</sup> Edition, Revision 2, May 2004, §2143.

- (A) Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 15 and 21 were improperly rejected because the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* do not disclose or suggest a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to a data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 15 recite an element that is not disclosed in *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* or *Haartsen*. For example, Appellant's independent claim 1 recites the following:

An adapter comprising:  
an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a computing device via an infrared data port;  
a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a data system via a Bluetooth interface; and  
a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port.

Appellant's independent claim 15, recites similar features to those of claim 1.

*Kobayashi* discloses an option apparatus for a portable terminal unit. The option apparatus of *Kobayashi* comprises a radio transceiver, an infrared transceiver, and a connector, and the portable terminal unit of *Kobayashi* comprises a radio transceiver, infrared transceiver, and a connector. In the option apparatus of *Kobayashi*, a radio transceiver converts electrical signals supplied from the control circuit into RF signals (*Kobayashi*, p. 13, lines 1-2), and a light emitting unit converts electric signals received from the infrared transmitter/receiver into infrared radiation (*Kobayashi*, p. 14, lines 12-18). Nevertheless, *Kobayashi* does not a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port.

*Sulavuori* discloses a computer or telecopier coupled to a radio telephone via an infrared connection. In one embodiment, *Sulavuori* discloses using the computer/telecopier as an external device with the infrared connection between the radio unit, wherein the computer/telecopier would be between the radio phone and a PCMCIA

data card. The PCMCIA data card communicates with the radio phone through the infrared connection. Data from a computer/telecopier is converted in correct form for the radio telephone in the PCMCIA data card, which is transmitted by the radio telephone without any conversion when the radio telephone system is digital. See *Sulavuori* at col. 8, ll. 47-67. However, Appellant submits that *Sulavuori* does not disclose or suggest a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to a data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port.

*Haartsen* discloses a system and method for establishing ad hoc communication sessions between remote communication terminals. A base station transmits a beacon signal including information about the identity and system clock of the base station. Remote terminals within range lock to the base station, synchronizing their system clocks with the base station's clock and setting their hop sequence and hop sequence phase based on information in the beacon signal. See *Haartsen* at Abstract. Further, *Haartsen* discloses that Bluetooth systems are envisioned as a universal radio interface in the 2.45 GHz frequency band that enables portable devices to connect and communicate wirelessly via short-range, ad-hoc networks (col. 4, ll. 25-30). Nonetheless, *Haartsen* does not disclose or suggest a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to a data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port.

As discussed above, *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori*, and *Haartsen* each fail to disclose a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to a data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to an infrared data port. Since *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* all fail to disclose or suggest such a feature, any combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* would also not disclose or suggest the feature.

It is also respectfully submitted that *Kobayashi* does not teach or suggest a combination with *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*, *Sulavuori* does not teach or suggest a combination with *Kobayashi* and *Haartsen*, and *Haartsen* does not teach or suggest a combination with *Kobayashi* and *Sulavuori*. It would be impermissible hindsight based on Appellant 's own disclosure to incorporate the option apparatus for a portable terminal in *Kobayashi* and the computer/telecopier device with the infrared connection in *Haartsen* into the system and method for establishing ad hoc communication sessions between remote communication terminals disclosed in *Haartsen*. Moreover, such a combination would still lack a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to a data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to an infrared data port.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 15 are patentable over the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*.

Claims 2-6 and 21 depend from claims 1 and 15, respectively, and include additional limitations. Therefore, the invention as claimed in claims 2-6 and 21 are similarly patentable over the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*.

**(B) Claims 7-14, 16, 17 and 22 were improperly rejected because the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* do not disclose or suggest an adapter to convert information received from an infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer and to convert information received from a Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to an infrared data port**

Claims 7-14, 16, 17 and 22 are not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for the same reasons as given above with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 15, and further due to the additional feature of an adapter to transfer information between a computing device and a data system.

Appellant's arguments made above with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-6, and 15 apply equally to claims 7-14, 16, 17 and 22 and are incorporated herein by reference. With respect to the adapter to transfer information between a computing device and a data system, Appellant's claim 7 recites the following:

A system, comprising:  
a computing device including an infrared data port to transmit and receive information to a data system in communication with a network; and  
an adapter to transfer information between the computing device and the data system, the adapter including:  
an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the infrared data port;  
a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the data system; and  
a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port.

Appellant's independent claims 16, 17 and 22, recite similar features to those of claim 7.

Appellant submits that nowhere in *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* or *Haartsen* is there disclosed an adapter to transfer information between a computing device and a data system. Accordingly, claims 16, 17 and 22 are patentable over the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*.

Claims 8-14 depend from claim 7 and include additional limitations. Therefore, the invention as claimed in claims 8-14 are similarly patentable over the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*.

For the forgoing reasons, Appellant submits that the Examiner has failed to search and find a printed publication or patent that discloses the claimed invention as set forth in MPEP § 706.02(a).

Thus, the Examiner erred in rejecting claims 27-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).



2. THE PENDING CLAIMS 3 AND 12 WERE IMPROPERLY REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) BECAUSE ANY COMBINATION OF *KOBAYASHI*, *SULAVUORI*, *HAARTSEN* AND WELL KNOWN ART DO NOT DISCLOSE OR SUGGEST EACH AND EVERY FEATURE OF THE PENDING CLAIMS

Appellant respectfully submits that the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori*, *Haartsen* and the well known art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention for the reasons set forth below. .

- (A) Claims 3 and 12 were improperly rejected because *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* in view of The Well Known Art do not disclose or suggest (1) a processor coupled to an infrared transceiver and a Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to a data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port or (2) an adapter to convert information received from an infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer and to convert information received from a Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to an infrared data port

Claims 3 and 12 are not obvious in view of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* and known prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 3 and 12 depend from independent claims 1 and 7, respectively, and necessarily include each of the features. As discussed above, nowhere does *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* or *Haartsen* teach or suggest each and every element of the Appellant's independent claims 1 and 7. For example, *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* all fail to teach a processor converting information from an infrared format to a Bluetooth protocol format, and vice versa, and an adapter to transfer information between a computing device and a data system.

With respect to claims 3 and 12, the Examiner states that it is well known for a power supply to be in communication with a processor. However, since *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* all fail to disclose many of the elements required by the Appellant's independent claims 1 and 7, and since those ordinary skill in the art fail to

disclose, teach and/or suggest those elements missing from *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen*, the combination of *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori*, *Haartsen* and the well known art fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the Appellant's invention as embodied in the claims. Consequently, the Examiner has not established a prima facie case of obviousness, and the Examiner's rejection of claims 3 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over *Kobayashi*, *Sulavuori* and *Haartsen* should be reversed.

### VIII. CONCLUSION

Careful review of the Examiner's rejections shows that the Examiner has failed to provide any reference, or combination of references of the prior art that shows all of the elements of each appealed claim. Therefore, Appellant respectfully submits that all appealed claims in this application are patentable and were improperly rejected by the Examiner during prosecution before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Appellant respectfully requests that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences overrule the Examiner and direct allowance of the rejected claims.

This brief is submitted with a check for \$500.00 to cover the appeal fee for one other than a small entity as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c). Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: October 17, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_  
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Date of Deposit: October 17, 2005

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence: Krista Mathieson

Krista Mathieson October 17, 2005  
Signature Date



**APPENDIX OF CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(viii))**

The claims on appeal read as follows:

1. An adapter comprising:  
  
an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a  
  
computing device via an infrared data port;  
  
a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a data  
  
system via a Bluetooth interface; and  
  
a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth transceiver to  
  
convert information received from the infrared transceiver to a Bluetooth  
  
protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information  
  
received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer  
  
to the infrared data port.
2. The adapter of claim 1, further comprising a buffer to provide temporary storage  
for information converted by the processor.
3. (Previously Presented) The adapter of claim 1, further comprising a power  
supply coupled to the processor.
4. The adapter of claim 1, wherein the infrared transceiver includes a driver circuit  
to transmit information to the infrared data port.
5. The adapter of claim 1, wherein the infrared transceiver includes a receiving  
circuit to receive information from the infrared data port.
6. The adapter of claim 1, further comprising housing.

7. A system, comprising:  
a computing device including an infrared data port to transmit and receive  
information to a data system in communication with a network; and  
an adapter to transfer information between the computing device and the data  
system, the adapter including:  
an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the  
infrared data port;  
a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from  
the data system; and  
a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth  
transceiver to convert information received from the infrared  
transceiver to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data  
system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth  
transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data  
port.
8. The system of claim 7, wherein the computing device is a portable computer.
9. The system of claim 7, wherein the adapter is physically coupled to the  
computing device.
10. The system of claim 7, wherein the adapter is a stand-alone unit that  
communicates with the computing device over an infrared communication link.
11. The system of claim 7, wherein the adapter further comprises a buffer to provide  
temporary storage for information converted by the processor.

12. The system of claim 7, wherein the adapter further comprises a power supply coupled to the microprocessor.
13. The system of claim 7, wherein the infrared transceiver includes a driver circuit to transmit information to the infrared data port.
14. The system of claim 7, wherein the infrared transceiver includes a receiving circuit to receive information from the infrared data port.
15. An adapter comprising:
  - a first infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a first computing device via a first infrared data ports;
  - a second infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a second computing device via a second infrared data port;
  - a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from a data system via a Bluetooth interface; and
  - a processor coupled to the first and second infrared transceivers and the Bluetooth transceiver to convert information received from the first and second infrared transceivers to a Bluetooth protocol format for transfer to the data system and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to at least one of the infrared data ports.
16. A method for wirelessly connecting a computing device to a network, comprising:
  - receiving information at an adapter over an infrared communication link from a remote computing device;

converting the information from an infrared format to a Bluetooth protocol format

at a processor; and

communicating the information to the network over a Bluetooth link.

17. A method for wirelessly connecting a computing device to a network,  
comprising:

receiving information at an adapter over a Bluetooth communication link from the  
network;

converting the information from a Bluetooth protocol format to an infrared signal at a  
processor; and

communicating the information to the computing device over an infrared communication  
link.

21. The adaptor of claim 15, wherein the adapter further comprises a buffer to provide  
temporary information storage.

22. A system comprising:

a portable computing device having an infrared data port;

an IR (infrared) to Bluetooth adapter communicatively coupled to the infrared  
data port, the adapter having:

an infrared transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from the  
infrared data port;

a Bluetooth transceiver to transmit and receive information to and from  
the data system; and

a processor coupled to the infrared transceiver and the Bluetooth

transceiver to convert information received from the infrared

transceiver to a Bluetooth format for transfer to the data system

and to convert information received from the Bluetooth transceiver to an infrared format for transfer to the infrared data port; and an data system communicatively coupled to the IR to Bluetooth adapter to receive Bluetooth protocol signals from the IR to Bluetooth adapter, and to transmit the signals to a network.